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ABSTRACT

This second annual edition, published by the bookmobile librarians of Northern Illinois LACONI-Outreach, provides questions to test bookmobile publicity, an outline of traditional publicity modes, descriptions of bookmobile programs, a discussion of bookmobiles versus books by mail and branch libraries, circulation cost comparisons, hints for "creative economics," and a discussion of using computers on bookmobiles. Examples of bookmobile and engine and body maintenance charts are included as well as bookmobile features offered by the manufacturers and recommended generator repair companies. A directory of bookmobiles in the United States and a bibliography are provided. (RBF)

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MOBILE IDEAS
1981

Bookmobile Librarians
Library Administrators Conference of Northern Illinois
Outreach Librarians Section

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This is the second annual edition of MOBILE IDEAS, published by the bookmobile librarians of northern Illinois LACONI-Outreach. We are extremely grateful to the many bookmobile and van librarians across the country who contributed the ideas and articles in this issue. We also wish to thank the State librarians who contributed to our directory and the manufacturers of bookmobiles and computers who answered our queries.

Due to lack of staff time and money, we regret that none of the lists included is complete and inaccuracies are inevitable. If you are interested in learning more about anything appearing in this issue, please contact the manufacturer or bookmobile librarian involved.

Mary Tutton, Editor
Chris Gibson, Production
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To order MOBILE IDEAS send \$1.00 to:

Wynne Weiss
DesPlaines Public Library
841 Graceland Ave.
DesPlaines, Ill. 60016

PUBLICITY

TEST YOUR BOOKMOBILE PR

1. Are your bookmobile hours prominently posted somewhere in each community and included on all printed materials?
2. Is your bookmobile attractive inside and out and do you have plans for improving its appearance?
3. Does each person coming into the bookmobile receive a friendly greeting and assistance?
4. Do you contact new residents to tell them about bookmobile service?
5. Do you have story times or movies?
6. Have you given a talk to an outside group in the past year?
7. Do you keep local news media well informed on bookmobile activities?
8. Has the bookmobile budget increased in the last two years?
9. Do you participate actively in National Library Week, Children's Book Week, etc.?
10. Do you have good relations and cooperation with county schools and branch libraries?
11. Is your bookmobile really a "community information center" with every effort made to fill requests, including interlibrary loan?
12. Do you plan news-generating events, such as book

displays tied to community activities and seasonal events?

13. Are you active in at least one local civic group?
14. Are you acquainted with the heads of county government, town government and school boards in your area?
15. Are bookmobile hours convenient for the people in the communities it serves?

GIVE YOURSELF 5 POINTS FOR EACH "YES."

- 65-75 - You're doing fine; keep pitching.
 - 50-65 - Good
 - 35-50 - Lots of room for improvement.
 - Below 35 - No wonder you have problems.
- Madison, Wis.

TRADITIONAL MODES OF PUBLICITY: listed in order of effectiveness as reported by our contributors.

1. handouts through schools plus PA announcement
2. bookmarks plus talking to patrons on bookmobile
3. newsletters and other mass mailing
4. door hangers in target neighborhoods
5. local, regional newspapers
6. handouts in the library
7. handouts in monthly bills to residents of housing complexes
8. posters in bookmobile, library, shopping centers, schools
9. bank signs
10. radio, TV

ADDITIONAL MODES OF PUBLICITY: used by our contributors.

1. Brunswick-Glenn, Ga. created "Traveling Libraries,"

a twelve minute dual-screen slide-tape presentation on their regional bookmobile. It won first prize in the '75 Georgia Library Association PR Awards.

2. Have the bookmobile in parades, county fairs, community socials. A brightly painted bookmobile advertises itself wherever it goes.
3. Advertise with pencils, balloons and other parade and school visit give-aways.
4. Have the Children's and Bookmobile Librarians go into schools near the end of the year to set up the summer reading program.
5. Have a contact person at each stop to put up "No Bookmobile Today" signs or to call regular patrons when the bookmobile is down unexpectedly.
6. Take part in park district summer programs and let them do the publicity.
7. Have Friends of the Library do mass mailing for you.
8. Do films, story times, book lending at preschools and give kids "I went to the ___ Bookmobile Today" handouts.
9. Have namecards with your name, the library/bookmobile address and phone to give school administrators and anyone else you visit.
10. Moline, Ill. uses personals in the classified section of the local paper:
FOUND: 3,000 books in large blue and white container. Claim at corner of 15th and 6th St., Fridays 2-5 PM. Moline Public Library Bookmobile. I'M BACK! Wonder where I've been lately? Get in touch with me Saturday mornings at Butterworth School. Moline Bookmobile.

ANYONE INTERESTED? in establishing a steady, rewarding relationship with few demands, please contact me on Saturdays, 2-5 PM at...etc."

11. Quincy, Ill. broadcasts on local radio during Community Bulletin Board every morning. A local spot, Capsule Comment, provides a one-minute telecast describing bookmobile services. The local paper publishes their schedule twice a year and did a feature and follow-up when the bookmobile circulation topped 2000 one week.
12. Brunswick-Glenn, Ga. took a magic show to those schools where they wanted to increase circulation. The magician gave a pitch about using the summer bookmobile. Close relations with patrons, however, are their best publicity. One woman said she was, "gladder to see the bookmobile than Santa Claus."
13. Crow River, Minn. pays kids a penny a piece to deliver door hangers in areas where they want to build up patronage.
14. Piscataway Twp., N.J. had a van with siren and loudspeaker. The staff announced their arrival by "barking" over the loudspeaker.
15. Rochester, N.Y. found questionnaires to prospective patrons were also a good means of publicity.

HINTS

1. Make sure the library staff has copies of your publicity and can explain your programs to patrons.
2. Coordinate your programs and publicity with the library or community groups whenever possible.
3. The fewer times you change your schedule the more time and money you save.

4. Try to be seen in the community. Visit local groups if you don't join them.
5. Always carry bookmobile schedules with you.
6. Have a map showing your stops on your schedule. Include address and phone of your library/system headquarters.

PROGRAMS

Whether a bookmobile offers lots of programs or none at all seems to depend on the time available and the interest of its staff. Lack of space and money are problems that have been worked around quite successfully by our correspondents.

In the summer Zion, Ill. places a small projector on the floor three feet from the front desk. Children sit behind the projector to watch short films shown on the desk front, leaving the rest of the bookmobile open for patron browsing.

Brown County, Wis. participates in a county-wide reading program for children and young adults. At the end of the summer, teachers are given the children's certificates which list the books they read. The young adult librarian gives book talks.

Decatur, Ill. runs an annual slogan contest. The winning slogan is put on the rear of the aluminum bookmobile in contact paper. Winners have been: "Meals on Wheels for Hungry Minds," "Don't Bump Me, I've Got the World in Here," "Let Your Reading Mushroom Here," and "Be a Bug About Reading."

Piscataway Twp., N.J. has blood pressure screening in cooperation with the Twp. Health Dept. They make weekly stops at local industries, which boosts their adult circulation. They also use films, clowns, mimes, and storytellers.

Polk Co., Wis. finds its service to jails is much appreciated by the inmates and is a great publicity grabber in the community. Inmates are more interested in nonfiction than in "fluff" books; poetry and philosophy are favorites. They don't recommend the use of rental books because of the low return rate.

Mid-York Library System, N.Y. gives Burger King certificates for free fries to everyone returning an overdue during amnesty week. They hired a high school girl to do summer story times using flannel board and puppets. Their circulation was so high they couldn't have kept up without the extra help.

Crow River Regional Library, Minn. has replaced two stops on a lake with personalized roving service. They play music on a loudspeaker as they circle the lake and stop to serve any patron who flags them down. Circulation in that area has increased twenty times over that on the fixed schedule.

Brunswick-Glynn, Ga. arranged for the author, Doris Smith, to visit one of the schools in their area. This particular school is located on the edge of the Okefenokee Swamp and is very isolated. The bookmobile started a pamphlet giveaway (energy, etc.), paperback, coupon, and pattern exchange. They're interested in corresponding with anyone who has attempted a cost analysis of bookmobile services.

Santa Fe Regional Library, Fla. recently began a step-van bookmobile going to tiny towns previously unserved. Business is booming thanks partly to a mass mailing publicity campaign.

Scottsdale, Ariz. visited a grade school with a combination tour and story told by a staff member dressed as Mother Goose. They're thinking of using other traveling characters to visit storytimes at bookmobile stops.

Zion, Ill. uses their ceiling extensively to display name tags and decorations for their various programs. The children get the nametags at the end of the program.

Aurora, Ill. has set up a special shelf and bulletin board to display books on gardening, home repair, vacations, Ill. authors, books that became movies, and baseball.

Quincy, Ill.'s most successful program is the summer reading program. The theme this year is "Library Jungle Safari." The library and bookmobile have printed a beautiful booklet with games, puzzles, passports, etc.

Many libraries outside the state of Wis. are taking advantage of the fine summer reading material they provide. For information write to: Dept. of Public Instruction, Rm. 21, Plaza, GEF3, 125 S. Webster, Madison, Wis. 53702. Themes have been "All Creatures Great and Small," "Star World at the Library," "Super People Enjoy the Library," "Summer of the Whangdoodle," "Super Snooper at the Library," and this year's "Merlin's Mid-Summer Magic."

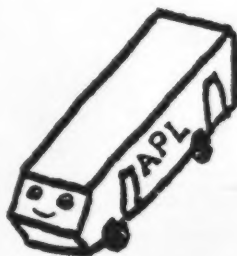
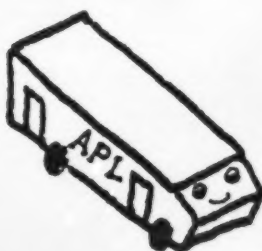
We haven't verified, but the concept is so good we're including it anyway. The Minn. State Library working in conjunction with noted agronomists and the Agriculture Dept. of the State University have devised a list of the best books and materials on farming for the citizens of their area. Libraries and bookmobiles can stock these titles and provide a much needed service for their rural and gardening patrons.

Finger Lakes, N.Y. ran a survey of their patrons to see how far from the bookmobile they lived. They determined that 230 people travel 274 miles one way to get to the bookmobile. They would have had to travel 1368 miles one way to reach the closest library. They also indicated they were borrowing books for 677 people.

Winding Rivers, Wis. converted its bookmobile into an artmobile. It takes books and a traveling troupe of artists to stops in a seven county area. Weavers, potters, actors and even a belly dancer are on the bill of fare.

St. Louis County, Mo. has added a van to serve older citizens. It is equipped with an electric lift for loading and unloading book carts and is fitted with shelving for a back-up book collection. It makes biweekly visits to retirement centers and nursing homes. They carry regular and large print books, and will take requests for periodicals, audio cassettes and players, 35mm slides, and films. Patrons prefer having the items brought to them on a cart to having to go into a bookmobile. They provide voter registration and applications for senior citizen's bus ID cards. The van can be run by one person and can go into driveways too small for a bookmobile.

Central Ill. extension librarians have united in a group to explore mutual concerns and share ideas. Each member bookmobile is strong in at least one area: Quincy, publicity; Peoria, hospital service; Danville, volunteer program; Springfield Lincoln, service to the jail; and Decatur, semi-truck trailer units and computers. The Central Ill. Extension Librarians meet quarterly at each other's libraries. There are no dues. Anyone interested should contact one of the bookmobile members.



DECATUR: Complete Service Through Modern Technology
Betty Lou Hicks, Extension Coordinator
Decatur Public Library, Decatur, Ill.

The citizens of Decatur are offered library service through the Decatur Public Library in the heart of downtown and by two bookmobiles with a total of seventeen stops weekly. The stops vary in length from two to six hours. The bookmobiles operate Tuesday through Saturday and two nights a week. Each is staffed with a library assistant and a clerk/driver and carries approximately 5000 items.

The bookmobiles are unique in that they were designed by James C. Seidl, our former Extension Librarian, with the advice of Dean Klingaman, a Test Engineer with Catepillar Tractor. The first unit was built in 1979 and then some modifications to the blueprints were made by the new Extension Librarian, Betty Lou Hicks. The second unit was built in 1980 in Wentzville, Miss. by Brooks Brothers Trailers.

Our bookmobiles resemble semi-trucks. They are tractor trailer units and the trailer is the portion actually designed by the Library staff. The trucks are Internationals. Over many years we have tried various types of bookmobiles and from experience learned that the tractor-trailer unit best meets our needs. Most libraries use self-contained units and thus when a mechanical problem arises the entire unit is in for repairs. Not so with the tractor-trailer. If the chassis needs mechanical repairs, the trailer is spotted, moved by the second tractor or a tractor is borrowed. A standard fifth wheel hitch is used so any semi-tractor can pull the unit.

The trailers are all aluminum with a guaranteed life of 20-25 years. The body is built in four foot by eight foot sections which can easily be replaced should bodily damage occur. The overall unit measures

40'x12'x8'. The first unit had a 22 BTU heat pump for heating and cooling. This was increased to 30 BTU on the second unit. Standard metal library shelving was used: Wilson Co. on the first and Burroughs Shelving Co. on the second. The units sport wood paneling, carpeting, and formica topped counters. The gooseneck area provides a storage room with bathroom facilities for the convenience of the staff. Generator problems are eliminated by using electrical hookups at the stops with each bookmobile carrying a 120 foot cable.

In July 1980 we went on line with a CLSI circulation system. On each bookmobile is a composite terminal composed of a light pen and video screen. The terminal is hooked up to a standard telephone. The staff dials the computer at the Rolling Prairie Library System and then places the receiver into an acoustic coupler. The phone is answered by an automatic answering device. A 100' length of telephone cable is carried on the unit and serves as the hookup between the bookmobile and a telephone jack at each stop.

The bookmobile has a dual communication system. With the CLSI terminal it can send or receive messages from the other bookmobile, the main library, or Rolling Prairie, the system headquarters. Since the telephone is a regular phone, the staff can call anyone that needs to be called, such as the police, a tow truck, etc. By having the CLSI terminal, the bookmobile staff can not only transact business for a patron, but can notify the patron of overdues, register a patron, and advise patrons as to whether a book is owned by Decatur Public or Rolling Prairie. For the first time the bookmobile has a card catalog and a system of communicating with the outside world.

Since going on line in July, the bookmobiles have experienced downtime only when a telephone line was out of order, a problem encountered mainly due

to poor cable lines in Decatur, and a downtime due to CLSIs redoing their program.

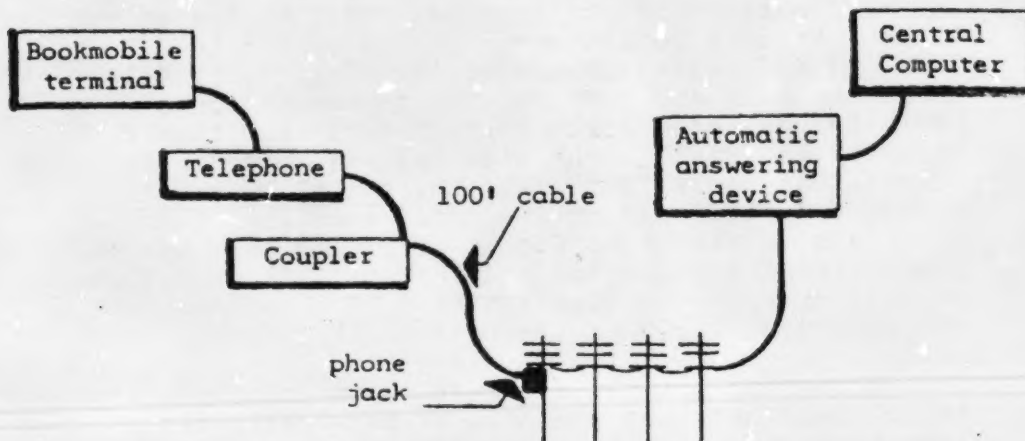


Diagram of Computer-Telephone Hookup for Decatur's Bookmobiles

CIRCULATION COST COMPARISONS

There are a number of ways to estimate circulation costs, but since bookmobiles usually share such expenses as processing, supplies, heating for garages, etc. with their main libraries, any detailed estimate is going to get into gray areas where figures are not easy to find. Serena Wilson, Southwest Wis. Library System Director, conducted a survey of the running cost of Books By Mail and bookmobile circulation in her area in '78-'80. BBM averaged \$.85 per circulation

and bookmobile \$.73. (Capital investment and depreciation on the vehicle were not included.) Carl Caruso, Head of the bookmobiles for the South Central Wis. System, estimated a cost per circulation of \$2.89 by taking the total population in the otherwise unserved portion of his counties and dividing it by the number of circulations. Choong H. Kim in BOOKS BY MAIL gave the comparative figures of \$.14 for bookmobile and \$.01 for BBM in Washington's sparsely populated North Central Regional Library District in '71-'73. The simplest way to estimate circulation costs is to take the annual bookmobile budget and divide it by the total number of items circulated during that fiscal year. The Ohio State Library used this method and came up with an estimate in 1980 of \$.84 per circulation on its bookmobiles as opposed to \$1.59 in the public libraries.

Whether or not you estimate costs per circulation, it is important that you have as many realistic figures concerning the operation of your bookmobile on hand as you can so you will have a good basis for fighting budget cuts. Katherine C. Hurrey, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, advised bookmobile librarians to make use of statistics to build a case for keeping their vehicles on the road. She suggested assembling figures on the number of miles traveled by visitors to the library versus bookmobile miles to the community, the number of patrons using each stop, number and type of materials circulated, number of reference questions answered. She stressed the importance of PR, knocking on doors, developing a faithful following, and making sure the bookmobile does not become an annoyance to anyone.

CREATIVE ECONOMIES

In the past when bookmobile people got together the main emphasis was on innovative services and programming. Now, with large national and local budget cuts in the offing, their concern often is to keep what they have, work to preserve its high quality, and be farsighted and vigorous in its defense.

Gainesville, Fla. finds mass mailing is such good PR they are willing to cut costs elsewhere, if necessary, to do it. So far they've been having Friends of the Library do their mailing on the Friend's mailing permit.

Brunswick, Ga. high school vocational students under a CETA project are doing body work and painting the bookmobile. Costs to the library are materials plus \$25.00 shop fee. The work so far is excellent.

Such popular services as comic book, paperback, puzzle, pattern, and coupon exchanges don't cost bookmobiles anything to run and are easy to set up and maintain.

Several years ago Zion, Ill. had to do a rush job of stocking a new bookmobile on a small budget. They bought masses of Golden Books from a local distributor and discount stores. They've held up and are still popular today.

Using a rental plan such as McNaughton is a time efficient way to keep your best sellers current. However, buying the books at discount is cheaper. Baker & Taylor gives substantial discounts on hardback singles and paperback multiple copies. You can save even more by getting rid of unpopular books at an annual book sale.

Changing weekly schedules to biweekly ones out

back on gas use and travel time. If stops are lengthened at the same time, patrons will accept the change more readily and circulation may not be hurt. Gainesville, Fla. cut way back on the number of their stops and concentrated on fewer, longer ones. Most are two hours or more; one eight and a half. This enabled them to install electrical hookups at a calculated savings of \$5000 a year on gas. (The rule of thumb is that electricity is cheaper than generator power for stops over thirty minutes.) Since they seldom run their generator, maintenance costs are way down. Circulation is up because they stay in one place longer and patrons can find them.

Bookmobile manufacturers are also trying to adapt to the financial crunch. In '78 Mr. Lamperelli from Gerstenslager talked with bookmobile people in New York. At that time new bookmobile sales were down, but in California where Proposition 13 was in effect bookmobiles were being substituted for branches. Gerstenslager has tried to meet ballooning inflation by resorting to fewer choices of interior design. They now offer six standard interiors which, with minimum modification allowed, could be purchased for \$50-65 thousand dollars. (A Moroney was purchased by a N.Y. library in '80 for \$63,000. It included a wheelchair lift.) He also said that people are buying smaller units to keep the price down. Some are buying their bookmobiles on time; others are setting aside a yearly amount in the bank in anticipation of replacing their machines. Gerstenslager is also using fiberglass paneling to keep prices down.

Krown Enterprises believes their all-aluminum exteriors save money because they never have to be patched or painted and their lighter weight allows for a smaller truck to haul them. The trailer should have a longer life than a single-unit vehicle.

Finally, while some bookmobilers complain about the lack of room and durability in their RV type

conversions, these units can be much cheaper initially than a standard bookmobile.

Economies suggested by the '81 Wisconsin Roundtable are: limit materials, have fewer multiple copies, demand quick return of best sellers, take reserve requests rather than buying multiple copies, serve homebound patrons on schedule rather than demand, buy books as cheaply as possible, thoroughly explain to your patrons the financial reason for each cutback in service and enlist their support with local governing bodies.

Can a librarian legally ask his patrons to support higher taxes for library funding? Joyce Mitchell of Eau Claire, Wis. feels that the Hatch Act, which prevents public employees from using their positions to solicit funds, is pertinent in this case. However, nothing prevents a librarian from giving a patron the name and address of the head of his county board and suggesting he write to him after that patron has expressed an interest in the continuation of an endangered service.

Pennsylvania is helping 29 bookmobiles with a state aid program set up in '80. Each bookmobile receives \$910 after it meets basic standards: is at stops 20 or more hours weekly, has shelf capacity for over 2000 items, offers over 6000 titles annually, spends at least \$1800 a year to meet basic standards, a trained person in charge must work on the bookmobile during the majority of hours it is at stops.

One last suggestion. It might be wise to hold off severe cutbacks in service until they become necessary. When the time comes to trim the fat, you want to have some fat to cut.

FOR OUR CRITICS

Many bookmobile people think of Books By Mail as dangerous competition because in some areas it has been instituted as a cheaper replacement for bookmobile service. Most properly BBM is brought in where bookmobiles are not cost effective because of a sparse population in large district areas (Vermont, Washington state). Choong H. Kim in BOOKS BY MAIL quotes a Pennsylvania study and says "salaries and wages made up about 88 percent of bookmobile cost, and the remainder was depreciation and book loss. In order to increase book circulation the bookmobile must drive more miles (\$2.61/mile), and the greater the distance to cover, the greater the staff and vehicle costs." We would argue that in many areas, especially urban ones, circulation increase is not proportional to miles traveled. Gainesville's bookmobile increased circulation while they cut back on their route. Increasing postage costs and the threat by Government to change library mailing rates will also make BBM more expensive. Serena Wildon's survey in Wis. (7.12) showed bookmobile cost per circulation to be below that of BBM in her area. So if the only reason your library is considering BBM over bookmobile service is to save money, make sure they do a detailed cost projection first. BBM may not be cheaper in the long run.

Kim also says that bookmobiles serve largely juvenile readers, while BBM is mostly for adults. "While bookmobile users could easily switch to BBM, the BBM users could not easily use the bookmobile." While it is true that most of us depend on juveniles for the bulk of our circulation, we are trying to overcome the image of bookmobiles for children only by carrying bestsellers and promoting our other adult services. Where bookmobiles and BBM operate simultaneously they seem to attract a different audience, but the division is not necessarily between juvenile

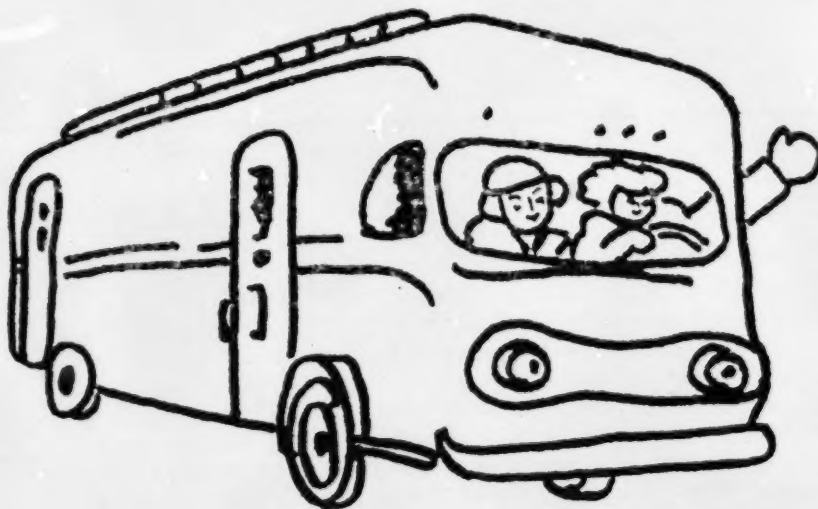
and adult. More often they compliment rather than take away from each other. They both help the library reach a part of the population that was previously "nonreading," who seem to be turned off the idea of using large libraries. They both serve readers who for physical or geographical reasons can't reach the library. But for patrons who like to browse, who like to check out a great many books at once, like the personal service of being "sold" a book that is just right for them, and like to talk about books with other book lovers, there is no way BBM can replace bookmobiles.

In many urban areas branches are replacing bookmobiles. They can provide a larger selection of materials, programs, and services, and they are always there. This last feature is one of their major drawbacks. In a changing neighborhood, the branch that was viable last year may be dead next year because its regular patrons have moved away. Branches almost always cost more to buy/rent and maintain than do bookmobiles, and you can't pick them up and move them when you find they're in the wrong place. Long successful bookmobile service in a neighborhood can be the best indication that that spot would be ideal for a branch. Decatur is replacing two of its bookmobile stops with branches because they were so popular, thus freeing the bookmobile to cover areas of the city that are now unserved.

A N.Y. library tried to compromise on the roominess of a branch and the mobility of a bookmobile. They had two mobile homes converted by Moroney into semi-permanent bookmobiles that could be moved by truck. Moroney warned that these would be hazardous on the highway, and they were right. Both units were involved in major accidents and one was totaled. Some regular sized bookmobiles are becoming semi-permanent by lengthening their stops and using only electrical hookups. Patrons can count on their being in one place for a while, and they cut back on the cost and inconvenience of using a generator. Electrical

telephone hookups for computers are also a realistic option in these cases (Decatur).

Sometimes, for reasons of economy or lack of patronage, bookmobiles are eliminated with no substitute for serving the areas they covered. Rising fuel prices have been used as an excuse for dropping bookmobile service even though many bookmobile people find their circulation increased when it began costing so much for patrons to drive to the library. Increased cost of stocking a bookmobile is a similar cause of rising circulation; patrons would rather borrow than buy a \$4.00 paperback. The best defense against the critics is to prepare your statistics, make your service as popular as possible, become indispensable to your regular customers, and publicize your operation so that everyone in your area knows where you are and how much you can do for them.



COMPUTERS ON BOOKMOBILES

At this time there are about eleven vendors in the ready-to-use library circulation business. CLSI, DataPhase, and ULYSIS have been used by our correspondents.

C L Systems, Inc. (CLSI)
81 Norwood Ave. Newtonville, Mass. 02160

Warren-Newport, Ill. began using the CLSI Portacirc in 1980. It is a tablet about 13"x9"x1" with a small screen, scannable function tabs, number keyboard, and lightpen. You may have seen your grocery clerk using one like it to order stock. Our Portacirc is capable of doing checkouts for any of five loan periods, although we have simplified things by having it automatically set for a four week loan so we never have to read the function tab for loan period. It is also capable of doing regular checkins, renewals and clear charges. Again, we simplify by using only one of these functions, clear charges, and catch overdue books by looking at their date due cards.

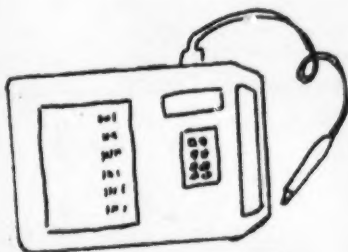
Our computer operator is the driver/clerk. She sits at the back desk and does all checkins and checkouts, thus freeing the other clerk for reference and programming. On short runs, one person can easily handle all bookmobile operations.

Once a day we connect the Portacirc to the central computer in a neighboring town via telephone. The Portacirc holds 4000 transactions and transmits at the rate of 30 transactions per minute. It usually takes us fifteen minutes to transmit, and then we erase by turning the Portacirc off and are ready to start all over again. It will run off its own batteries for five hours before recharging or can use AC current continuously. The day after transmission, we receive a printout showing how many books we checked in and out and listing delinquent patrons. We also get printed overdue notices which we doublecheck and mail out to

patrons.

When it works, our Portacirc is wonderful. Checking out is as fast as on the old Gaylord, and checking in is instantaneous. We are always up to date on our overdues and the whole overdue procedure is so painless we've learned to love our delinquent patrons again. We're hoping to use the Portacirc for inventory in the future.

There are, however, disadvantages to using any computer and some that may be peculiar to our system. They are costly and the time spent in initially setting up the system is considerable. Our system went through an earlier period of frequent breakdowns and we had to get used to losing some circulation data. The Portacirc will not immediately catch delinquent patrons or reserves, but we have accommodated our operation to these deficiencies. Altogether, the Portacirc is a good tool for making our service faster and has relieved us of the more onerous aspects of circulation. Zion and Bur Oak System in our area also use the Portacirc.



Arlington Heights, Ill. is planning to become computerized later this year. Their main library uses CLSI's Unit 60 and the bookmobile will purchase an Apple II to interface with that. Their Apple will have a CRT, keyboard and light pen. It will perform all the functions of the Portacirc and is reportedly more reliable. It will record transactions but will not catch delinquents or reserves until its diskette is dumped into the library's main computer. One diskette

holds 1000 transactions and can be dumped into the main computer in three to four hours. Diskettes can be changed easily. The Apple can also be used as a dumb terminal for circulation in the library when the main computer goes down or be used by patrons for games. If the library should ever decide to change vendors, the Apple can be used with any other system. The bookmobile will run the Apple off their generator.

See "Decatur" (p.10) for use of online CLSI computers on bookmobiles.

Computer Translation Incorporated (CTI)
Box 7004 University Station
Provo, Ut 84602

CTI sells software created by Brigham Young University and Apple terminals to CLSI users. Their programs include not only circulation but also scheduling, training, statistical programs and games.

Universal Library Systems Ltd. (ULYSIS)
202-60 St. Clair Ave.E.
Toronto, Ont., Canada M4T 1N5

ULYSIS has been providing an automated circulation system to libraries in the US for the last five years. Computer hardware is supplied by Digital Equipment Corp. and software by Universal.

St. Louis Co. is converting to ULYSIS. Their bookmobile will have limited intelligence terminals to trap requests, specified delinquent borrowers, etc. They will not be on line.

DataPhase Systems, Inc.
3770 Broadway
Kansas City, MO 64111

Quincy, Ill. will be getting a cassette recorder that will be part of the DataPhase system.

BOOKMOBILE MAINTENANCE CHARTS

While most of us consider the manufacturer's manual to be our bible for preventive maintenance, we usually end up devising our own shorter charts to use before the six-month's checkup and state inspections. Whether your maintenance is done by a library employee or a local garage, you should send along a detailed list of items to be checked each time. Your chart will help you make this list and later serve as a record of when parts were checked or replaced. You'll want a separate chart for each bookmobile so you can include for regular inspection the trouble spots that are peculiar to that vehicle. A ring binder containing your charts, trouble log with repair dates and costs, all model and license numbers, hiring dates of employees, old schedules, etc. keeps everything handy and can save you lots of grief. Besides, if you should die or, perish the thought, leave your job, your successor will be able to keep the bookmobile rolling as before. Following are some examples of basic maintenance charts:

STATE VEHICLE INSPECTION (every 6 months)

Date	Cost	Does the bookmobile carry: vehicle registration card, flares, seat belts, \$7.00 for fees?
		Check: all exterior lights, turn signals,
		emergency and service brakes, wheel alignment,
		steering wheel tightness, horn.

GENERATOR MAINTENANCE CHART (every 6 months)

Make: _____ Address & phone of garages: _____
 Model: _____
 Purchase Date: _____

Date										
Garage										
operating hours										
change oil										
change oil filter										
replace sparks										
check battery										

ENGINE & BODY MAINTENANCE CHART

Make: _____ Address & phone of garages _____
 Model: _____
 Purchased from: _____
 Purchase date: _____

Date							
Garage							
Miles							
clean air cleaner (6 mo)							
change oil (6 mo)							
change oil filter (6 mo)							
replace fuel filter (12 mo)							
grease steps (6 mo)							
check batteries (6 mo)							
check cooling system (6 mo)							
check tires (6 mo)							
tuneup (6 mo): repl. sparks, points, condenser, adj. timing.							
other							

BOOKMOBILE MANUFACTURERS

Beach-Craft Motor Homes
 52684 (R.8) Dexter Dr.
 Elkhart, Ind. 46514

Beach-Craft offers a basic floorplan for bookmobiles but will alter it according to customer needs. Estimated mileage on their units varies from six to eight miles per gallon depending on unit size and driving conditions. They can build a unit to run on LP gas which will reduce operating costs. Prices on their standard models are approximately: 25' - \$31,828; 28' - \$33,992; 32' - \$37,646. Units have a steel shell and fiberglass exterior. Shelves are adjustable formica. All units use generators, and engines can use gas or diesel.

American Commercial Coach
4805 West 96th St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46268

Barth, Inc.
Milford, IN 46542

Brodart, Inc.
1609 Memorial Ave.
Williamsport, Pa 17707

Calumet Coach Company
135 E. 115th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60628

Calumet body types include trailers, semi-trailers, truck mounted, and forward control single units. Floor-plans are modified to your specifications. They have five basic bookmobile plans with shelving for from 2000 to 2500 books. Single units vary in length from 22' to 24.5'. The truck-mounted model is 28'. Generators are optional.

Drumm Flexible Corp.
Deleware, Ohio

Gerstenslager Co.
P.O.Box 390
1425 E. Bowman St.
Wooster, Ohio 44691

One of the largest bookmobile manufacturers in the world, Gerstenslager builds four basic body styles: conventional (1000-3000 book cap.), forward control (same cap.), transit bus style (2500-4000), and semi-trailer (3500-6000). They will customize to your specifications and can include multi-media accomodations and a wheelchair lift.

Kidde Merchandising Equipment Group
100 Bidwell Rd, P.O.Box 328
South Windsor, CT 06074

Krown Enterprises (Dean Klingaman)
810 N. Whitetail Cir.
Mt. Zion, Ill. 62549

Krown has been making truck bodies and trailers for 43 years. While they will build truck mounted units, they believe their fifth wheel trailer concepts of bookmobiles will be a delight to librarians when the size, maneuverability, economy and durability are realized. Their three basic trailers are: 20-32'-low to mid \$20's; 24-40'-mid to upper \$20's; 32-40'-low to mid \$30's. They have all-aluminum bodies for light weight (gas savings) and rust free (long life) service. A one-ton truck can pull their largest trailer and be detached in less than ten minutes.

Marion Body Works
Marion, Wis. 54950

MediCoach
Box 129
Oneonta, N.Y. 13820

Moroney, Thos F. Inc.
433 Boston Tnpk.
Shrewsbury, Ma 01545

Moroney and Gerstenslager are the only companies that make bookmobiles on a continuous basis.

Thomas Built Buses, Inc.
1408 Courtesy Road
High Point, N.C. 27261

Thomas no longer builds a completed bookmobile but will provide base bodies including doors, special wheelhouses, etc. The customer has a cabinet shop complete the interior.

Wilson, H. Co.
555 West Taft Dr.
South Holland, Ill. 60473

St. Louis County Library
1640 S. Lindbergh Stvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63131

The library makes their own bookmobiles in their shop. They say most body companies will convert vehicles to bookmobiles. They operate 22 bookmobiles and a senior citizens van.

RECOMMENDED GENERATOR REPAIR (Recommended by our correspondents)

Arthur G. Dietrich, Inc. (Kohler)
8035 N. Port Washington Rd.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53217 414-352-7452

Generator Systems, Inc.
300 S. Stewart Ave.
Addison, Ill. 60101 312-628-8600

Modern Power, Inc. (Kohler)
505 Lane Ave.
Jacksonville, Fla.

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DIRECTORY OF BOOKMOBILES IN THE UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

Cochise County Library
Flagstaff City-Coconino Co. L.
Maricopa Co. L.
Phoenix P.L.
Tucson Public-Pima Co.L.
Scottsdale P.L.
Tempe P.L.
Prescott City-Yavapai Co.L.
Yuma City-County L.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles P.L.

COLORADO

Mesa Co. L.

CONNECTICUT

Hagaman Memorial
Hartford P.L.
Bugbee Memorial L.
Manchester P.L.

CONN.

Russell L.
Atwater Memorial L.
Kent Memorial L.
Wilton L. Assn.
Thompson P.L.

FLORIDA

Santa Fe Reg. L.
Orlando
Jacksonville
Ocala
Daytona
Pensacola
Tallahassee
Starke

GEORGIA

Brunswick-Glynn Reg. L.
Ft. Stewart Army Base
Okefenokee Reg. L.

ILLINOIS

Arlington Heights Mem. L.
Aurora P.L.
Bloomington P.L.
Bur Oak L. Syst.
Champaign P.L.
Cook Memorial P.L.
Cumberland Trails L.Syst.
Danville P.L.
Decatur P.L.
DesPlaines P.L.
Cicero P.L.
E. Moline P.L.
E. St. Louis P.L.
Evanston, P.L.
Fox Lake P.L.
Granite City P.L.
Peoria P.L.
Indian Trails P.L.
Joliet P.L.
Kaskaskia L. Syst.
Lewis & Clark L. Syst.
Lincoln L.
Lincoln Trail L. Syst.
Moline P.L.
Niles P.L.
Quincy P.L.
Rock Island P.L.
Rolling Prairie L.
Schaumburg Twp. P.L.
Skokie P.L.
Ill. Prairie L. Dist.
Suburban L. Syst.
Vernon Area P.L. Dist.
Warren-Newport P.L.
Waukegan P.L.
Western Ill. L. Syst.
Zion-Benton P.L.
Dunlap P.L. Dist.
Peoria Heights P.L.

ILL.

Glenview P.I.
Hayner P.L. Dist.
DeKalb P.L.
Frankfort P.L. Dist.
Henderson Co. Dist. L.

INDIANA

Noble Co P.L.
Anderson-Stony Creek Twp.
Bedford-Sawrence Co.
Monroe Co. P.L.
Bluffton-Wells Co. L.
Boonville-Warrick Co. L.
Charlestown Twp. Co. L.
Bartholomew Co. L.
Fayette Co. P.L.
Elkhart P.L.
Fort Wayne-Allen Co. L.
Franklin-Johnson Co. P.L.
Gary P.L.
Greencastle-Putnam Co. L.
Indianapolis-Marion Co.
Jasper-Dubois Co. Cont. L.
Howard Co. Cont. L.
Albert A.Wells Mem. L.
LaGrange Co. L.
LaPorte-LaPorte Co. Cont. L.
Union Co. P.L.
Logansport-Cass Co. L.
Lowell P.L.
Madison-Jefferson Co. P.L.
Morgan Co. P.L.
Mitchell Comm. P.L.
Muncie-Center Twp. P.L.
NewCastle-Henry Co. Cont.
Jennings Co. L.
Oakland City-Columbia Twp.
Barrett Mem.-Pike Co.
Plainfield P.L.

IND.

Jay Co. P.L.
Morrison-Reeves-Wayne Co.
Fulton Co. P.L.
Seymour-Jackson Co.
Shelbyville-Shelby Co. L.
South Bend P.L.
Spencer-Owen Co. Cont. P.L.
Sullivan Co. L.
Tell City-Perry Co. Cont. L.
Vigo Co. P.L.
Valparaiso-Porter Co. P.L.
Knox Co. P.L.

LOUISIANA

Allen Parish L.
Ascension Parish L.
Audubon Reg. L.
Avoyelles Parish L.
Beauregard Parish L.
Bienville Parish L.
Caddo (Shreve Mem. L.)
Caldwell Parish L.
Cameron Parish L.
Catahoula Parish L.
Clairborne Parish L.
Concordia Parish L.
East Carroll Parish L.
Evangeline Parish L.
Franklin Parish L.
Grant Parish L.
Iberia Parish L.
Jackson Parish L.
Jefferson Parish L.
Jefferson Davis Parish L.
Lafayette Public L.
LaSalle Parish L.
Lincoln Parish L.
Morehouse Parish L.
Natchitoches Parish L.

LA.

Ouachita Parish P.L.
Plaquemines Parish L.
Pointe Coupee Parish L.
Rapides Parish L.
Red River Parish L.
Richland Parish L.
St. Charles Parish L.
St. James Parish L.
St. John the Baptist P.L.
St. Martin Parish L.
St. Mary Parish L.
St. Tammany Parish L.
Tangipahoa Parish L.
Tensas Parish L.
Terrebonne Parish L.
Union Parish L.
Vermillion Parish L.
Vernon Parish L.
Webster Parish L.
West Baton Rouge Parish L.
West Carroll Parish L.

MAINE

Rochester P.L.
SELCO Reg. Syst.
Austin P.L.

MARYLAND

Montgomery Co.

MINNESOTA

Arrowhead L. Syst.
Austin-Mower Co. L.
Crow River Reg. L.
Dakota Co. L.
E. Centr. Reg. L.
Great River Reg. L.
Hennepin Co. L.
Kitchigami Reg. L.

Lake Agassiz Reg. L.
 LeSueur-Waseca Reg. L.
 Marshall-Lyon Co. L.
 Minneapolis P.L.
 Minnesota Valley Reg. L.
 Nobles Co. L.
 Northwest Reg. L.
 Rochester P.L.
 St. Paul P.L.
 South St. Paul P.L.
 Southeastern L. Cooperating
 Viking L. Syst.
 Washington Co. L.
 Western Plains L. Syst.

MISSOURI

Southwest Reg. L.
 Dallas Co. L.
 Camden Co. L. Dist.
 Henry Co. L.
 Daniel Boone Reg. L.
 Stone Co. L.
 Daviess Co. L.
 Cass Co. P.L.
 Wright Co. L.
 Ozark Reg. L.
 Riverside Reg. L.
 Thomas Jefferson L. Syst.
 Northeast Mo. L. Serv.
 St. Louis Co. L.
 Kinderhook Reg. L.
 Bollinger Co. L.
 Mexico-Audrain Co. L.
 Sullivan Co. P.L.
 Barry-Lawrence Cons. L.
 Rown & Country Reg. L.
 St. Clair Co. L.
 Christian Co. L.
 New Madrid Co. L.
 Washington Co. L.

Ray Co. L.
 Atchison Co. L.
 Rolling Hills Cons. L.
 St. Joseph P.L.
 St. Louis P.L.
 St. Charles City-Co.L.
 Boonslick Reg. L.
 Springfield-Greene Co.L.
 Gentry Co.L.
 Scenic Reg. L.
 Putnam Co. P.L.
 Current River Reg. L.
 Morgan Co. L.
 Trails Reg. L.

MONTANA

South Central Fed. of L.
 Billings

NEBRASKA

Metropolitan L. Network
 Kearney
 Columbus
 Scottsbluff

NEVADA

Churchill Co. L.
 Clark Co. L. Dist.
 Elko Co. L.
 Humboldt Co. L.
 Lincoln Co. L.
 Washoe Co. L.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Concord P.L.
 Goffstown P.L.
 Hills Mem. L.
 Laconia P.L.
 Manchester City L.
 Nashua P.L.

NEW JERSEY

New Brunswick
North Brunswick
South Brunswick
Edison
Franklin Twp.
Old Bridge
Somerset Co.

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque P.L.
Thomas Branigan Mem. L.
Santa Fe P.L.
Eastern Plains Reg. L.
Northeastern Reg. L.
Southeastern Reg. L.
Northern Reg. L.
Northwestern Reg. L.
Southwestern Reg. L.

NEW YORK

Mid-York L. Syst.
Finger Lakes L. Syst.
Mohawk Valley L.
Southern Adirondack L. Syst.
Buffalo & Erie Co. L. Syst.
Clinton-Essex-Franklin Col L.
Chemung-Southern Tier Syst.
Pioneer Syst.

NORTH CAROLINA

E. Albemarle Reg. L.
Dare Co. L.
Currituck Co. L.

NORTH DAKOTA

Ward Co. P.L.

OHIO

Manchester
Lima
Ashland
Ashtabula
Nelsonville
Wapakoneta
Martins Ferry
Hamilton
Middletown
Carrollton
Urbana
Springfield
Batavia
Wilmington
Lisbon
Coshocton
Cleveland
Greenville
Defiance
Deleware
Lancaster
Washington C.H.
Columbus
Grove City
Delta
Gallipolis
Cambridge
Cincinnati
Findlay
Cadiz
Napoleon
Logan
Millersburg
Steubenville
Mt. Vernon
Newark
Toledo
Marion

OH.

Medina
Wadsworth
Troy
Woodsfield
Dayton
McConnelville
Zanesville
Caldwell
New Lexington
Circleville
Hiram
Ottawa
Mansfield
Fremont
Portsmouth
Tiffin
Sidney
Alliance
Canton
Akron
Warren
New Philadelphia
Marysville
Lebanon
Marietta
Wooster
Bowling Green
Ironton
Pomeroy

OKLAHOMA

Tulsa City-Co. L.
Chickasaw L. Syst.
Garvin Co. L.
Western Plains L. Syst.
Eastern Oklahoma Dist. L.S.

OREGON

Douglas Co. L. Syst.

PENNSYLVANIA

Adams Co. P.L.
Carnegie L. of Pittsburgh
Beaver Co. L. Comm.
Bedford Co. L.
Reading P.L.
Bradford-Wyoming Co. L.
Bucks Co. Free L.
Butler Co. Traveling L.
Cambria Co. L. Syst.
Centre County L.
Chester Co. L.
Columbia Co. Traveling L.
Clearfield Co. P.L.
Upper Darby Twp. & Sellers
Mem. Free P.L.
Erie Co. L. Syst.
Conococheague Dist. L.
Eva K. Bowlby P.L.
Scranton P.L.
Lancaster Co. L.
James V. Brown L.
Monroe Co. P.L.
Montgomery Co.-Norristown
Bethlehem P.L.
Susquehanna Co. Hist. Soc.
& Free L.
Warren P.L.
Westmoreland Co. L. Board

SOUTH CAROLINA

Abbeville-Greenwood Reg.L.
Aiken-Bamberg-Barnwell-
Edgefield Reg.L.
Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Reg.
Anderson Co.L.
Beaufort Co. L.
Berkeley Co. L.
Calhoun Co. P.L.
Charleston Co. L.

S. CA.

Cherokee Co. P.L.
Chester Co. Free P.L.
Chesterfield Co. L.
Clarendon Co. P.L.
Colleton Co. Mem. L.
Darlington Co. L.
Dillon Co. L.
Dorchester Co. L.
Fairfield Co. L.
Florence Co. L.
Georgetown Co. Mem. L.
Greenville Co. L.
Horry Co. Mem. L.
Kershaw Co. L.
Lancaster Co. L.
Laurens Co. L.
Lee Co. P.L.
Lexington Co. Circ. L.
McCormick Co. L.
Marion C. L.
Marlboro Co. P.L.
Newberry-Saluda Reg. L.
Oconee Co. L.
Orangeburg Co. Free L.
Pickens Co. L.
Richland Co. P.L.
Spartanburg Co. L.
Sumter Co. L.
Union Carnegie L.
Williamsburg Co. L.
York Co. L.

TENNESSEE

Blue Grass
Caney Fork
Clinch-Powell
Forked Deer
Fort Loudoun
Highland Rim
Nolichucky

TENN.

Reelfoot
Shiloh
Upper Cumberland
Warioto
Watauga

TEXAS

Abilene P.L.
Angleton-Brazoria Co.L.
Athens-Henderson Co./
Murchison Mem. L.
Baytown-Sterling Mun.L.
Bryan P.L.
Corpus Christi-La Retama
El Paso P.L.
Fabens-El Paso Co. L.
Fort Worth P.L.
Fredericksbutg-Pioneer
Mem. L.
Grand Prairie Mem. L.
Houston-Harris Co.P.L.
Houston P.L.
Kingsville-Robert J.
Kleberg P.L.
Longview-Nicholson Mem. P.L.
Lubbock City-Co. L.
Marshall P.L.
Nederland-Jefferson Co. L.
Odessa-Ector Co. L.
Pasadena P.L.
Port Arthur P.L.
Raymondville-Reber Mem. L.
Richmond-Ft. Bend. Co.L.
Robstown-Nueces Co. L.
San Angelo-Tom Green Co.L.
San Antonio P.L.
Snyder-Scurry Co. L.
Sweetwater Co-City L.
Tyler P.L.
Waco-McLennan Co. L.

WEST VIRGINIA
Raleigh Co. P.L.
Kanawha Co. P.L.
Ohio Co. P.L.
Parkersburg-Wood Co. L.
Fayette Co. L. Syst.
Mary H. Weir P.L.

WISCONSIN
Southwest Wis. L. Syst.
Racine P.L.
Milwaukee P.L.
Madison P.L.
Brown Co. L.
Oshkosh P.L.
South Central Syst.
Sheboygan P.L.
Marathon Co. P.L.

WYOMING
Laramie Co. L. Syst.
Natrona Co. L. Syst.

We apologize for the inadequacy of this list. If you can make any additions or corrections, please send them to:

Mary Tutton
Warren-Newport P. Library
224 N. O'Plaine Rd.
Gurnee, Ill. 60031